



Carolina Autism Resource and Evaluation Center

Autism is a lifelong developmental disability that affects 1 in every 110 people.

People who have autism experience communication and socialization difficulties. While autism affects people of all racial, ethnic and social backgrounds, its cause is unknown.

With proper diagnosis and services, people with autism can lead productive lives. Making a diagnosis, however, is often complex and involved. While some of the cases of autism may be identified through behavioral observation alone, others may require extensive evaluation -- including family history, psychological testing and medical evaluations, assessments, etc. Because autism has varied symptoms, it is best that specially trained professionals conduct the evaluation and make the diagnosis.

To meet these needs, the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (SCDDSN) provides the Carolina Autism Resource and Evaluation Center (CARE) -- a center to diagnosis, assess and plan for services for people with autism.

DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT

The assessment may be obtained through one of the four regional Autism Division offices. The diagnostic team will consist of at least two professionals trained in the use of assessment tools. Upon completion of the evaluation, you will receive a diagnosis and recommendations for your family member along with informational materials that will be helpful to you and your family. There is no fee for this service.

RECEIVING SERVICES

To receive services at the CARE Center, a qualified Service Coordination or Early Intervention provider must refer a family. If a family has a Service Coordinator or Early Interventionist, they should contact that individual to be referred. If a family does not have a Service Coordinator or Early Interventionist, they should call the USC-Center for Disability Resources at 1-800-289-7012 to complete the screening process for DDSN eligibility.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Carolina Autism Resource and Evaluation (CARE) Center is operated by the Autism Division of SCDDSN. Offices are located in Spartanburg, Columbia, Florence, and Charleston.

Contact the office nearest you.

Coastal Regional Autism Office 9995 Miles Jamison Road Summerville, SC 29485 Phone: (843) 832-5561 Fax: (843) 832-5560	Midlands Regional Autism Office 8301 Farrow Road Columbia, SC 29203 Phone: (803) 935-5090 Fax: (803) 935-7135	Pee Dee Regional Autism Office 714 National Cemetery Road Florence, SC 29506 Phone: (843) 664-2720 Fax: (843) 664-2735	Piedmont Regional Autism Office 269 S. Church Street, Suite 309 Spartanburg, SC 29306 Phone: (864) 594-4907 Fax: (864) 594-4923	South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs Autism Division 3340 Harden Street Ext. P.O. Box 4706 Columbia, SC 29240 Phone: (803) 898-9609 Fax: (803) 898-9653
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